

State of North Carolina Office of the Governor

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GOV. EASLEY APPOINTS NEW DIRECTOR FOR LATINO/HISPANIC AFFAIRS

RALEIGH – Gov. Mike Easley has appointed Axel Lluch of Asheboro as director of the Governor's Office for Latino/Hispanic Affairs.

Lluch most recently served as human relations manager for Unilever Bestfoods North America of Asheboro. He replaces Nolo Martinez, who had been director since 1998 and is now becoming senior policy advisor at El Pueblo.

"Axel brings strong skills and abilities to this office, and he will serve as a integral link with our Latino/Hispanic community," Easley said. "Nolo did an outstanding job and we wish him continued success in his new position."

The Governor's Office for Latino/Hispanic Affairs helps coordinate and develop state and local programs to meet the needs of Hispanic and Latino residents. The director is also responsible for staffing the work of the Governor's Advisory Council on Hispanic/Latino Affairs.

Lluch earned his bachelor's degree in environmental science from the University of Puerto Rico in San Juan and his master's degree in environmental education and communications from State University of New York in Syracuse, N.Y.

He was human resources manager at IVAX Inc. of Puerto Rico from 1999 to 2001, Amgen Inc. of Puerto Rico from 1996 to 1999, and Eli Lilly & Co. in Puerto Rico from 1984 to 1996. Lluch is treasurer and co-founder of the Latino Coalition of Randolph County and a member of the Randolph County Chamber of Commerce's Diversity Committee.

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